

Another week has come and gone quickly. On Monday, CSM Wallace and I had the honor of greeting former President George Bush when he arrived at Chaklala Airbase. During his two-day visit, our Blackhawk aircrews flew President Bush around the area of operations. Although President Bush planned to visit Task Force Eagle Soldiers on Tuesday morning, rain and poor visibility prevented his flight to Qasim Airbase. President Bush was very complimentary of our Soldiers' hard work and dedication to mission accomplishment.

As the weather improved throughout the week, our aircrews continued delivering humanitarian relief supplies in record numbers. On Wednesday, we set two new records, including the record for amount of supplies delivered in one day (239 tons) and the amount of supplies delivered by a single Chinook (78 tons). We have currently delivered 9,375 tons of supplies, conducted 3,738 casualty evacuations, and flown 4,465 accident-free hours.

In response to the recent air strike along the Pakistan/Afghanistan border, we have increased force protection measures to ensure the safety of all Soldiers. We have not experienced any backlash as a result of the attack. Qasim Airbase is well protected from potential threats and the Pakistani Military takes pride in maintaining our security. I do not anticipate any problems during the course of our operations.

The morale and health of Task Force Eagle Soldiers remains high. Soldiers still wake up early to watch the NFL championship playoffs.

On Thursday, we successfully conducted a series of Video Teleconferences to Germany and Fort Lewis, Washington. Thanks to the superb coordination of our Communications Team, many Soldiers enjoyed meaningful face-to-face time with their loved ones.

On Friday, four 4th Brigade Soldiers returned safely to Germany: MAJ Steve Loftis, Operations Officer; CPT Chris Gonzales, Signal Officer; SGT Harry Brown, Noncommissioned Officer In Charge of Motorpool and Arms Room activities; and SPC Latonya Gage, Intelligence Analyst. Their commitment to duty greatly contributed to Task Force Eagle's success.

Thank you very much for your prayers and support.

Respectfully,

COL Bob Johnson